VZCZCXYZ0014 OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHWL #0299 3080729
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
OR 040729Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0178 INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0001 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 000299

SENSITIVE SIPDIS SENSITIVE

STATE FOR EAP/ANP AND IO/HR, PAUL KRUCHOWSKI AND IO/UNP, ANDREW MORRISON AND NEA/IPA, JEFFREY GIAUQUE AND USUN NEW YORK, ELLEN GERMAIN

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND RESPONSE TO GOLDSTONE REPORT DEMARCHE

REF: 09 STATE 112828; State 098567, USUN 0958

- 11. (U) PolOff delivered Reftel demarche to Michael McBryde, MFAT's United Nations, Human Rights and Commonwealth Division Deputy Director and encouraged GNZ to support USG's position during the November 4 UNGA Goldstone Report debate. Mr. McBryde met separately with MFAT's Middle East Division and UN Division Directors to discuss this demarche prior to responding.
- 12. (SBU) According to McBryde, Foreign Minister McCully is following this issue closely and intends to be in phone contact with Jim McClay, NZ's UN permanent representative during the debate. GNZ views this as a "fast moving situation", and its response will crystallize as events unfold. McBryde did say that the proposed resolution language is surprisingly mild which indicates that the Palestinian delegation authors are seeking to build a broad support base. The resolution currently calls upon both Israel and the Palestinians to investigate alleged human rights abuses. If the final version is altered and demands only Israeli investigations, GNZ will not vote for it.
- 13. (SBU) GNZ will not support a resolution endorsing the Goldstone Report. Instead, it prefers language that "takes note" of the report and its recommendations. GNZ is not concerned about attempts to direct the Security Council (SC) to take up this matter because the SC decides which topics it will discuss, and GNZ believes that it is unlikely to add this debate to its agenda. According to McBryde, the current resolution text does not mention sanctions or make any reference to the International Criminal Court or the International Court of Justice, and GNZ does not believe that these options will be suggested during the debate. Finally, GNZ is not opposed to time limits for completing investigations into alleged abuses.
- $\P 4$. (U) McBryde stated that there is a robust, ongoing dialogue between our two countries' UN delegations regarding the Goldstone Report, and he is confident that this will continue during the Nov CLARKE